

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 03733 091023Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 IO-13 PC-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /097 W

-----049408 091030Z /14

P R 090740Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7900

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL KABUL 3733

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: FIRST OFFICIAL PAKISTANI CONTACT WITH THE NEW  
AFGHAN REGIME

1. TANVIR AHMAD KHAN, DCM OF THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY, HAS RECENTLY DESCRIBED TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER THE INITIAL MEETING OF PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR ALI ARSHAD WITH AFGHANISTAN'S NEW PRIME MINISTER, NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI, ON MAY 5, THE DAY PAKISTAN ANNOUNCED ITS RECOGNITION OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (DRA). ACCORDING TO THE DCM'S ACCOUNT, TARAKI GREETED ARSHAD WITH A CHUCKLE, SAYING "WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG? WERE YOU WAITING FOR A COUNTERCOUP?"

2. WHEN ARSHAD ASKED TARAKI POINT BLANK WHETHER HE WAS A COMMUNIST, THE AFGHAN LEADER REPLIED RHETORICALLY: "MY ONLY INTEREST IS TO FEED MY PEOPLE, TO CLOTHE THEM, AND TO SHELTER THEM. IF THAT IS COMMUNISM, THEN I MUST BE A COMMUNIST. ON THE OTHER HAND, DOESN'T ISLAM INVOLVE THE SAME CONCERNS?" WHEN ARSHAD AGREED THAT ISLAM INDEED DOES, TARAKI EXCLAIMED, "WELL, THEN, I MUST BE A MUSLIM."

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUL 03733 091023Z

3. TARAKI ASSURED ARSHAD THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED IN PRESERVING A FRIENDLY, PEACEFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN. IN SPITE OF THIS ASSURANCE, OBSERVED TANVIR AHMAD KAHN, HIS EMBASSY HAD BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE SEVERAL MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATIONS THE DRA HAS BEEN ANNOUNCING THAT IT IS RECEIVING FROM TRIBES THROUGHOUT "PUSHTUNISTAN" (I.E., THOSE PUSHTUN

AREAS ON THE PAKISTANI SIDE OF THE DURAND LINE). HE NOTED IN PARTICULAR RECENT KABUL MEDIA REFERENCES TO SPECIFIC AFGHAN POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THAT REGION, SUCH AS "NORTH PUSHTUNISTAN" -- TERMINOLOGY THAT THE AFGHANS HAVE NOT USED SINCE FORMER AFGHAN PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD DAOUD AND FORMER PAKISTANI ZULFIQAR ALI BHUTTO COMMENCED THEIR DETENTE IN 1976.

ELIOT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 may 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decapton Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KABUL03733  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780196-0006  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** KABUL  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780580/aaaacprm.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c89b2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2754199  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FIRST OFFICIAL PAKISTANI CONTACT WITH THE NEW AFGHAN REGIME  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PK, AF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c89b2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014